

in Charles County, and was carefully educated by a learned Scotch teacher of the neighborhood. He studied law in Annapolis, and engaged in the practice of his profession with high repute. He was a member of the American Congress in 1776 when the Declaration of Independence was signed, and stood forth among the champions of his country at that trying period. He was again a member of Congress when General Washington resigned his office as Commander-in-Chief of the American armies. He was appointed one of the delegates from Maryland to attend the convention which met in Philadelphia in 1787 and formed the Constitution of the United States, but domestic circumstances led him to decline the appointment, and he died the same autumn, aged forty-four years. Mr. Stone was repeatedly a member of the Senate of his native State, and was in every way devoted to the interests of his country. His death was deeply lamented.

MAYER, CHARLES F., Lawyer, was a son of Christian Mayer, a well-known merchant, and one of the first Germans who settled in Baltimore shortly after the Revolutionary war. He was one of the founders in 1817 of the German Society of Maryland, and its first President. Charles F. Mayer was born in Baltimore town October 15, 1795, and died in Baltimore city January 4, 1864. He graduated with the first honors at Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pennsylvania, in 1812. After taking his degree, and before settling down to the business of life, young Mayer travelled extensively for several years. He visited various parts of Europe, Asia, and Africa, and acquired from his observations of other men and manners experience of life and much useful and curious knowledge, and perfected himself in the German and French languages, which he spoke with great fluency. He assiduously pursued his legal studies while at sea and during his travels, and completed them under the tuition of William Pinkney. In 1819 he was admitted to the bar of the old Baltimore County Court, and a few months after tried his first case, the gaining of which was a peculiar satisfaction to him, as the opposing counsel was the celebrated William Wirt. Mr. Mayer's career at the bar was successful from the first. His father's position as a merchant soon procured for him a lucrative practice, which he increased by untiring industry, and soon rose to the front rank of his profession. In 1814 he took part in the defence of his native city, and with his brother Lewis served in the ranks at Fort McHenry. He took a deep interest in public affairs, and in 1831 wrote the address of the "Central Committee of the National Republicans of the city of Baltimore to the people of Maryland." In 1838 he prepared the address to the voters of Baltimore from the Whig Convention (of which he was President), selected to nominate delegates to the General Assembly of

Maryland. He also advocated the election of William Henry Harrison and John Tyler, and General Taylor. In 1860, he held that a compromise was the only hope of the Union, and to this end supported Stephen A. Douglas for the Presidency. He was Chairman of the committee that welcomed him to Baltimore in September of that year, and also Chairman of the State Central Committee of Maryland. In 1861 he prepared an address for a Democratic Convention for the nomination of State officers in the interests of peace and the Union. But when Mr. Lincoln called out the troops to defend the Constitution and the Union, Mr. Mayer adhered to the cause of the South. He was in the Senate of Maryland from Baltimore from 1830 to 1835. While in that position and afterwards he prepared many of the most important laws still in force in this State. He was mainly instrumental in harmonizing in 1832 the antagonistic interests of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company and the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company, when Chairman of the joint committee of the two houses formed for the consideration of the matter. Mr. Mayer was distinguished for his philanthropy. He was one of the original incorporators of the House of Refuge, and one of its managers until the day of his death. He was also one of the earliest friends of the Home of the Friendless of the City of Baltimore, and an earnest promoter of the Maryland Hospital and various other charitable institutions. In 1844 he assisted in organizing the Maryland Historical Society, before which he delivered the first address.

DRYDEN, MAJOR JOSHUA, was born in 1792 in Worcester County, Maryland, and received in his early youth such education as the country schools of that day afforded. He went to Baltimore when eleven years of age, and was apprenticed to his uncle, Milly Dryden, to learn the trade of a tailor. At nineteen years of age he engaged in the business on his own account, succeeding his uncle, who died at that time. He continued in that business from 1812 until 1836, when he engaged in brickmaking, and prosecuted that business for twenty years. In 1860, having acquired a competency, he retired from business pursuits. In 1813 he married Ann Maria Roberts, of Kent County, Maryland. They had eight children, only four of whom are now living (1878). Major Dryden was a soldier of the Fifth Regiment Maryland Militia, and was a defender of Baltimore at Bladensburg and North Point, and at the time of his death, which occurred in 1869, he was President of the Old Defenders Association. He served Baltimore in the City Councils for seven years, and at one time was President of the First Branch. He was a director in banks and in the Fireman's Insurance Company. He joined the Light Street Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1811, afterwards transferred his membership to the Charles Street Church